

WE CAN SAVE SOCIAL SECURITY AND ELIMINATE THE MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY

(Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, in the next 2 weeks, we have a lot to do, and of course we want to do the people's business.

This past weekend this House of Representatives did the right thing. We set aside \$1.4 trillion in surplus tax revenue for the effort to save Social Security, and we passed legislation which will eliminate the marriage tax personally.

I have often asked in the well of this House over the last year, is it right, is it fair that under our current Tax Code, 28 million married working couples pay higher taxes, just because they are married.

Well, we have addressed that. On Saturday we passed and sent to the Senate legislation whose centerpiece eliminates the marriage tax penalty for the majority of those who suffer. In fact, for 28 million couples they will see an extra \$240, enough money for a car payment in extra take-home pay because of lower taxes.

Now, those who opposed it, particularly those on the Democratic side of the aisle, claim somehow that our effort to eliminate the marriage tax penalty hurts the Social Security trust fund.

Now, on the Committee on Ways and Means, which I am proud to be a member of, we asked a representative of the Social Security Administration, Judy Chesser, the Deputy Commissioner of the Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs, if this tax cut to eliminate the marriage tax penalty impacts Social Security. She gave us a simple answer: No.

Let us save Social Security. Let us eliminate the marriage tax penalty.

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HOSTILE TAKEOVERS WITH A POSITIVE IMPACT

(Mr. BOEHLERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, a previous speaker talked about a hostile takeover with negative impact. I would like to talk about a hostile takeover with a very positive impact.

Yesterday the New York Yankees won their 114th game, to set an all-time record for an American League club. In addition to that, Bernie Williams won the American League batting championship with a .339 average. In addition to that, David Cone, after 10 years without winning 20 games, won his 20th game.

In addition to that, the wonder boy, Shane Spencer, who came up from the minor leagues and captivated the

hearts of all America, he has more home runs per game at bat ratio than Mark McGuire. He got number 10 yesterday, his third grand slam in 9 days. Joe Torre, that magnificent manager, brought them all together under the leadership of George Steinbrenner.

All America is smiling today. Mark McGuire has his 70 home runs, the New York Yankees are the American League all-time champion, and I invite all the Members to come witness what baseball has to offer America in Cooperstown, New York, that mecca of baseball. Come see it.

TAX CUT PACKAGE UNDER VICIOUS ATTACK BY LIBERALS

(Mr. SHIMKUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, the House of Representatives passed a tax cut package this past Saturday that, not surprisingly, is under vicious attack by liberals.

Think about that for a second. The very idea that government could get by with a little less so that families could have a little more is so offensive to liberals who worship at the altar of big government, no matter how much it wastes and no matter how dismal its results.

We have heard over and over again that tax cuts are an election year gimmick. This is quite revealing about the different attitudes of conservatives and liberals when it comes to the relationship between the governed and their Washington masters.

Conservatives have a respect for work. They believe that it is a fundamental principal of freedom to have the right to the fruits of your labor. Liberals act like people who work extra hard, who go the extra mile to get extra education and are thereby rewarded for those efforts with a higher income, have something to apologize for.

In their view tax cuts are not even legitimate. They are nothing more than an election year gimmick. Liberalism speaks for itself.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SUNUNU). Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken after debate is concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 5 p.m. today.

NUTRIA ERADICATION AND CONTROL PILOT PROGRAM

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 4337) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial assistance to the State of Maryland for a pilot program to develop measures to eradicate or control nutria and restore marshland damaged by nutria.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4337

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. NUTRIA ERADICATION AND CONTROL PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) GRANT AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of the Interior (in this section referred to as the "Secretary"), subject to the availability of appropriations, may provide financial assistance to the State of Maryland for a pilot program to develop measures to eradicate or control nutria and restore marshland damaged by nutria.

(b) GOALS.—The pilot program shall develop methods to—

(1) eradicate nutria in Maryland;

(2) eradicate or control nutria in other States; and

(3) develop methods to restore marshland damaged by nutria.

(c) ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary shall require that the pilot program consist of management, research, and public education activities carried out in accordance with the document entitled "Marsh Restoration: Nutria Control in Maryland Pilot Program Proposal", dated July 10, 1998.

(d) COST SHARING.—

(1) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the costs of the pilot program may not exceed 75 percent of the total costs of the pilot program.

(2) IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.—The non-Federal share of the costs of the pilot program may be provided in the form of in-kind contributions of materials or services.

(e) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Not more than 10 percent of financial assistance provided by the Secretary under this section may be used for administrative expenses.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For financial assistance under this section, there are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary \$2,900,000 for fiscal years 2000, 2001, and 2002.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON).

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. SAXTON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4337, a bill that implements the nutria eradication and control pilot program for the State of Maryland. This legislation was introduced by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST), from Kennedyville, a small town on the eastern shore. This bill was the subject of a subcommittee hearing on July 16.

At that time, the subcommittee received testimony from a diverse group of witnesses who strongly supported immediate action. In fact, H.R. 4337 incorporates the recommendations of a